# **FIRST DAY OF CLASSES TODAY!**

MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper

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Volume 132, Number 1



WEATHER, p. 2

TUE: 43°F | 25°F Sunny

WED: 36°F | 28°F

THUR: 44°F | 29°F Partly cloudy

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

#### **Techfair 2012 draws crowds in Rockwell Cage**



CHRISTOPHER A. MAYNOR—THE TECH

The MIT Electronics Research Society shows off one of their Tesla coils to a crowd of spectators Monday afternoon at the 2012 MIT Techfair. The student-run event had over 60 companies and 30 student groups exhibiting this year.

# **UA President Miramonti resigns**

### Juniors Wynter and David new president and vice president

By Ethan A. Solomon EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Undergraduate Association President Allan E. Miramonti '13 announced his resignation in a campuswide email last Wednesday, citing his need to "refocus" on academics and well-being. Miramonti's vice president, TyShaun Wynter '13, assumed the presidency immediately.

Yesterday evening, Wynter said he would nominate Amanda C. David '13, the 2013 Class Council president, as his vice president. She will not officially take office until confirmation by the new UA Council (under the UA's new constitution, a vice presidential appointment must be approved by 13 members of the 21-member Council).

Wynter himself was appointed by Miramonti. He assumed the role of vice president after the vice president-elect, Alec C. Lai '13, resigned in April 2011. Since Wynter never ran for election, the UA's top two spots will be oc-

cupied by unelected officials this term.

Miramonti, who was the first non-senior UA president since at least 1994, took office at the end of the spring semester and oversaw a substantial UA restructuring effort last term. The UA Senate was dissolved in December, and a UA Council comprised of dormitory and FSILG representatives will

take its place this coming term.
"This past semester has seen
the creation of a new UA, the beginnings of new trust between

students and administrators, and countless small projects around campus," wrote Miramonti. "While I have enjoyed the job, it is necessary for me to refocus on my studies and well-being."

Wynter says that Miramonti informed him of the decision about two weeks ago — when Wynter returned to campus — and the two have worked since then to prepare for the transition. "We spent between then and now

UA, Page 18

# Questions raised over 2030 in FNL

Faculty want input for the 2030 plans

By Stan Gill
NEWS EDITOR

Unlike previous iterations, the faculty newsletter (FNL) from November/December had several clear themes. It outlined a number of issues, including a faculty commentary of the MIT 2030 plan that covers concerns about faculty involvement and where academics fits into the plan, the report of the Stellar next-generation pilot on the blackboard platform, and updates on the committees for graduate admissions and undergraduate orientation. The MIT 2030 initiative was announced by MIT President Susan J. Hockfield last year as a vision of MIT for the future; in terms of how current real estate will be used and what new developments may occur. The opening editorial, written by the FNL editorial board, criticizes the MIT Investment Management Company's (MITIMCo) role in the development of the plan. It stated that although they are positioned to evaluate the financial implications of the plans for future use of MIT real estate, they are "not in a position to balance the financial implications of long-term planning with the future academic needs of MIT."

The editorial board states that it is impossible to predict and plan for the academic needs of the institute 20 years in advance. They also state that there is currently no faculty committee consulting with the administration on the MIT 2030 initiative regarding the use of off-campus land. The editorial board calls for such a committee to be formed, stating that "we need an Institute committee with full faculty representation to plan the growth and further reorganization of our campus, considering all the diverse requirements of maintaining a vibrant university community."

Faculty Chair, Samuel M. Allen, also wrote

FNL, Page 16

#### IN SHORT

**The Tau Beta Pi Spring Career Fair** is 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. today in Rockwell Cage.

James DiCarlo, a systems neuroscientist at the McGovern Institute, will be the new head of the Brain and Cognitive Sciences department, effective Mar. 1.

**Online Registration is now open!** Registration submitted after Friday, Feb. 10 is subject to a \$50 late fee. Go to http://registration.mit.edu

**Class of 2014 Ring Premiere** is Friday, Feb. 10 at 8 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.



Look back on the **biggest stories of the year** with a special edition of *The Tech.* See inside.



ELIJAH MENA—THE TECH

This rearrangement of the word "Techfair" appeared early last Thursday morning. The letters were placed there as advertisement of this year's Techfair, which concluded on Monday.

#### THE TECH IS DEAD, LONG LIVE THE TECH

Who's running the new volume? **THE GAGGLE, p. 13** 

#### **CRIMSON DEFEATS MIT**

Men's volleyball loses 3-1. **SPORTS, p. 20** 

#### **MAKE CONGRESS PART-TIME**

They don't do anything as it is. **OPINION**, **p. 5** 



# THE UA NEEDS SOLID LEADERSHIP

Miramonti's resignation is indicative of student apathy about the UA.

OPINION, p. 4

#### HACK, PUNT, TOOL

An original MIT musical examines the Institute's hacking culture. **ARTS**, p. 7

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#### Romanian prime minister resigns amid protests

BERLIN — After weeks of protests, Romania's prime minister resigned Monday, the latest European leader to fall victim to a mood of public outrage over austerity measures and stagnant

Thousands of Romanians took to the streets across the country last month to protest austerity measures. The prime minister, Emil Boc, said Monday that he was stepping down because "it is important to have stability."

The president, Traian Basescu, named the current justice minister, Catalin Predoiu, as interim prime minister. After a meeting Monday afternoon with leaders from the main political parties, Basescu announced that he was nominating Mihai Razvan Ungureanu, a former foreign minister who now leads Romania's foreign-intelligence service, as Boc's successor, pending parliamentary approval.

Basescu said negotiations would begin Tuesday for the appointment of a new government.

Parliamentary elections were already scheduled for later this year, by law no later than November, and the government's approval rating had fallen below 20 percent in recent opinion

-Nicholas Kulish, The New York Times

#### Palestinian factions reach unity deal

JERUSALEM — President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority embraced reconciliation with the Islamist movement Hamas on Monday, agreeing to head a unity government to prepare for elections in the West Bank and Gaza.

His move was welcomed cautiously by a broad range of Palestinians who are fed up with the brutal split at the heart of their national movement. It promised to upend Israeli-Palestinian relations, with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warning Abbas that he could have peace with Israel, or unity with Hamas, but not both.

The agreement between Abbas, the leader of Fatah, and Khaled Meshal, the head of Hamas, was yet another convulsion in the Middle East involving the rise of political Islam and the challenge it poses to pro-Western forces. It put Israel, which is nervously watching the new order taking shape around it, fur-

"Hamas is an enemy of peace," Netanyahu said. "It's an Iranian-backed terror organization committed to Israel's

On Sunday, he told his Cabinet that for Israel, living in the Middle East required self-sufficiency and toughness.

-Ethan Bronner, The New York Times

#### Obama to return donations tied to Mexican fugitive

Two American brothers of a Mexican casino magnate who fled drug and fraud charges in the United States and has been seeking a pardon enabling him to return have emerged as major fundraisers and donors for President Barack Obama's reelection campaign.

The casino owner, Juan Jose Rojas Cardona, known as Pepe, jumped bail in Iowa in 1994 and disappeared, and has since been linked to violence and corruption in Mexico. A State Department cable in 2009 said he was suspected of orchestrating the assassination of a business rival and making illegal campaign donations to Mexican officials.

When The New York Times asked the Obama campaign early Monday about the Cardonas, officials said they were unaware of the brother in Mexico. Later in the day, the campaign said it was refunding the money raised by the family, which totaled more than \$200,000.

–Mike McIntire, The New York Times

# Europe's banks reluctant to aid companies in need of cash

By Mark Scott

THE NEW YORK TIMES

LONDON — European governments are not the only ones struggling with debt - so are some of the region's companies.

As profits and sales slip, some European businesses are scrambling to pay their bills. With banks reluctant to lend, the fear is that companies will be unable to come up with the cash they need and will be forced to take drastic action, further weighing on the economy.

"There's a lack of business confidence across Europe" said Jonathan Loynes, chief European economist in London at the research organization Capital Economics. "Lending to the private sector is deteriorating, and there's enormous stress on the European economy."

The pressure is mounting. Insolvency — when a firm's debts exceed its assets and cash flow — is expected to rise 12 percent this year in the eurozone. Countries like Greece, Spain and Italy are expected to record the highest annual increases. In the United States, the number of insolvencies is falling.

In January, Petroplus Holdings of Switzerland, the largest independent oil refiner in Europe, said it was filing for insolvency after lenders demanded repayment on \$1.75 billion of outstanding debt. The company, facing dwindling margins as a result of high oil prices and weak economic conditions, tried to negotiate with creditors. But BNP Paribas of France, Credit Suisse of Switzerland and other lenders already dealing with the fallout from the European sovereign debt crisis decided that Petroplus was not worth the risk.

"We were ultimately not able to come to an agreement with our lenders to resolve these issues given the very tight and difficult European credit and refining markets," the company's chief executive, Jean-Paul Vettier, said in a statement on Jan. 24.

Now other companies, including energy multinationals and private equity firms, are sifting through the pieces. Nearly 40 bidders are assessing the British operations of Petroplus, according to

PricewaterhouseCoopers, which is overseeing the sale of the assets in Britain.

It is a bad omen. Roughly twothirds of European companies that become insolvent will eventually file for bankruptcy, according to Ludovic Subran, chief economist of Euler Hermes, a credit insurance firm in Paris.

"The business environment has become worse," Subran said. "Many companies are losing their competitiveness and being hit by a reduction in consumer spending."

This year is shaping up badly for the Continent. The International Monetary Fund said on Jan. 24 that the eurozone's gross domestic product would fall an estimated 0.5 percent in 2012. The downturn will be most severe in Southern Europe, where Italy's economy is expected to contract by 2.2 percent and Spain's by 1.7 percent.

The economic headwinds are wreaking havoc on corporate profits. As Europe grapples with recession, unemployment is rising, consumer confidence is plunging and manufacturing orders are falling.

# Obama imposes freeze on Iran property in US

By Jackie Calmes and **Rick Gladstone** 

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The White House moved to tighten sanctions against Iran on Monday because of the country's suspect nuclear program, freezing all property of the Central Bank of Iran, other Iranian financial institutions and the Iranian government in the United

The new restrictions also raised new warnings to financial institutions in other nations that they could face big penalties in the United States if they did business with Iran's central bank.

The actions were announced in an executive order signed by President Barack Obama that started the enforcement process for a tough measure he signed into law at the end of 2011. If fully carried out, that measure could isolate Iran's central

bank and effectively choke off the sale of Iranian oil by obstructing the means of payment. Most of the revenue for oil sales by Iran, one of the world's biggest oil exporters, is processed by its central bank.

Tensions have been rising between Iran and the West over Tehran's nuclear energy program, which Iran says is peaceful and Western nations say is a cover for efforts to achieve the ability to make a nuclear weapon.

Israeli leaders, who see Iran as their most serious security threat, have hinted that they may order a pre-emptive military strike on suspected nuclear targets in Iran if they conclude the sanctions are ineffective. Obama and his aides have sought to restrain Jerusalem, stressing in recent days that sanctions and diplomatic pressure are the preferred strategy for dissuad-

"There has been a steady in-

crease in our sanctions activity and this is part of that escalation," Jay Carney, the White House spokesman, said after the latest steps were announced.

Last week an inspection team from the International Atomic Energy Agency left Iran after the government refused to allow it to scrutinize elements of the nuclear program that the agency has said could be military in nature. Although the team is returning to Iran this month, Western diplomats have concluded that Iran appears intent on stonewalling.

In a statement, the White House said the executive order "re-emphasizes this administration's message to the government of Iran — it will face ever-increasing economic and diplomatic pressure until it addresses the international community's well-founded and welldocumented concerns regarding the nature of its nuclear program."

**WEATHER** 

# Ski slopes barren as lack of snowfall continues; Boston to stay temperate

**Bv Austin DiOrio** STAFF METEOROLOGIST

This season of below average snowfall looks to continue through this week. Computer models indicate no threat of significant snowfall over the next 7 days. This is not good news for skiers and boarders who wouldn't mind a little fresh powder. These conditions are in stark contrast to last year. According to the National Weather Service, the average

depth of snow in ME, NH, VT, and upstate NY is currently 9 inches, which is 16 inches less than last year.

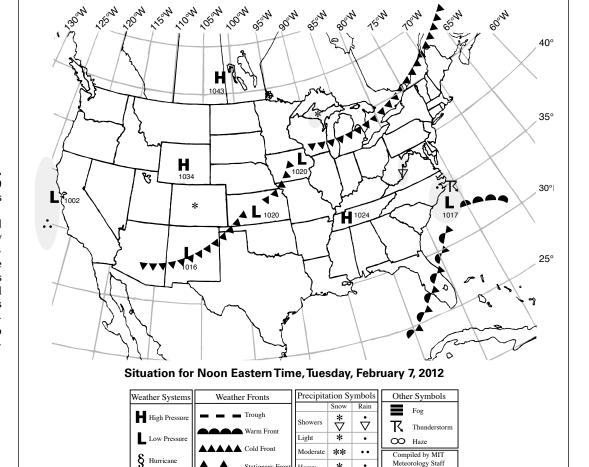
Although this is not good news for the slopes, sunny skies and above average temperatures may help console heartbroken Patriots fans. This week, high temperatures will soar well above Eli Manning's impressive 30 completed passes. Overnight lows will not dip nearly as low as the Patriots Superbowl points total of 17.

#### **Extended Forecast**

Today: Mostly sunny. High 43°F (6°C).

Tonight: Clouds building towards dawn, Low 25°F (-4°C).

Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy. High 36°F (2°C). Thursday: Partly cloudy. High 44°F (6°C).



and The Tech

#### By Anthony Shadid THE NEW YORK TIMES

mayhem escalates

- The United States closed its embassy in Syria on Monday and withdrew its staff in the face of escalating mayhem that U.S. officials blamed on the Syrian government's unbridled repression of an 11-month-old uprising.

The move marked another dramatic moment in a week full of them, as the confrontation in Syria turned even more violent and more unpredictable. Diplomatic efforts have largely collapsed, save for a Russian delegation visiting Damascus on Tuesday, and both the Syrian government and its opposition have signaled that each believes the grinding conflict will be resolved only through force of arms.

US closes embassy in Syria as

For weeks, Western embassies have reduced their staffs, and Monday, Britain also recalled its ambassador for consultations. Echoing a cascade of diplomatic invective, the British foreign secretary, William Hague, described the mounting violence as yet more evidence that President Bashar Assad must surrender power.

"This is a doomed regime as well as a murdering regime," he told the House of Commons. "There is no way it can recover its credibility internationally."

Though the government has pressed forward with a crackdown in the suburbs of the capital, Damascus, and a rugged northern region around the town of Idlib,

the city of Homs has witnessed the most pronounced violence. Opposition groups said government forces again shelled the city, despite international condemnations of a similar attack Friday and Saturday that they said killed more than 200

Another grim toll was reported Monday in the city, Syria's thirdlargest. The Local Coordination Committees, an opposition group that seeks to document the violence, said government forces killed 47 people in the hardest-hit neighborhoods, especially Baba Amr and Khalidya. The London-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights put the number at 43. There was no way to independently confirm either

# For both parties, a twisted path to financing a campaign

By Carl Hulse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — It is one of the most convoluted arrangements in Washington for complying with campaign finance laws — and that is saying something.

The four official party committees responsible for getting candidates elected to the House and the Senate each raise tens of millions of dollars for advertising and other activities on behalf of the people they have recruited and groomed. The heads of the Democratic Sena-

torial Campaign Committee, the National Republican Senatorial Committee, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and the National Republican Congressional Committee map out budgets and determine generally where their money would best be

Then the committees turn over all the money they have worked so hard to raise to a separate entity for each party — an independent expenditure arm over which the committee officials have no control that is responsible for researching, producing and placing campaign commercials.

But it is not like those in charge of the independent ad campaigns are unfamiliar with the thinking of the party committees. Typically, they have worked for or are closely associated with them. They might even have offices in the same building or just across the street. Still, they can no longer talk to their friends and colleagues about the campaign ads they are running because of the virtual "wall" separating the campaign organizations from their independent arms.

would continue charging airlines for their greenhouse gas emissions, despite an announcement from China that its carriers would be forbidden to pay without its permission.

"We're not backing down in our legislation, we'll apply this to companies operating in Europe," said Isaac Valero-Ladron, a spokesman for the European Commission, the Union's executive

The system, which began Jan. 1 and requires airlines to account for all of their emissions on flights that land at, or take off from, European airports, represents the Union's boldest move to date to protect the climate.

The system involves folding aviation into the Union's 6-year-old Emissions Trading System, in which polluters can buy and sell a limited quantity of permits, each representing a ton of carbon dioxide.

Earlier Monday, the Chinese air regulator effectively barred the nation's carriers from paying those charges or other fees, or increasing ticket prices in response to the EU system, without permission from the government. The Chinese government said it was also considering unspecified measures in response to protect Chinese

-James Kanter, The New York Times

#### Cancer-deterring drug found to harm bones

A drug that scientists hoped might be a safe new way to prevent breast cancer appears to pose a risk after all: significant bone loss.

The finding, published online Monday in The Lancet Oncology, could make women more reluctant to use the drug, exemestane, and it deals a setback to the notion that one day healthy people might take medicine to reduce their risk of getting cancer.

One might not be too reassured about the use of exemestane in the prevention setting," Jane A. Cauley, an epidemiologist at the University of Pittsburgh, wrote in a commentary that accompanied the study.

Exemestane (brand name Aromasin) is already used to prevent recurrence of breast cancer. But a large study published last June showed its use could reduce the risk of getting invasive breast cancer in the first place by about 65 percent, compared with a placebo, in women at higher risk of the disease.

While two other drugs, tamoxifen and raloxifene, are already approved to prevent breast cancer, they are rarely used for that purpose, in part because of serious side effects like blood clots. But exemestane does not have those side effects.

Dr. Angela M. Cheung, the lead investigator of the new study, said its findings should not discourage women at high risk of getting breast cancer from considering the drug.

-Andrew Pollack, The New York Times

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#### Information Session

Feb 9, 5:00pm at Room Number: 5-233

Free food and t-shirts. Recruiting for robotics, sequencing, machine learning and UI.



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#### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

#### The mission of MIT

I still remember very clearly the key reason behind my decision to attend MIT about a decade ago. It was a statement that set MIT apart from the other top schools. On one of the MIT webpages, I read that an MIT education is a calling, about understanding nature and not about building a career. Throughout my time at MIT, both as an undergrad and as a postdoc, I have seen many examples to support this mission statement that have always made MIT special for me.

Recently, however, I have been hearing more voices of an alternative culture; one puts career first and science second. I often hear my colleagues being more concerned about "spinning" and "selling" a paper rather than about understanding nature. I

hear MIT students and postdocs for whom the "impact factor" (IF) of the magazine/ journal in which they publish is more important than the substance of what they publish. This worship of the IF, computed and published by the Thomson corporation, is particularly odd for scientists given the methods of computing the IF, and particularly out of place at MIT (see http:// jcb.rupress.org/content/179/6/1091.full for more information). I still believe that MIT is a special place; I have met too many students and faculty passionate about science to think otherwise. Yet, I also think that we as a community should make a concerted effort to counteract the cancerous spread of the IF worship and preserve what makes MIT special. The personal example of the senior members of the community who put science first can be a particularly effective

and inspiring part of such an effort. I know from personal experience because I have benefited tremendously from the example of my mentors.

This emphasis on the IF can be seen as a particular example of the general trend of decoupling merit from social reward. Such decoupling is rather widespread in all realms of life, whether actively fostered by specious advertising or passively allowed by hiring and promotional committees focusing excessively on the IF. The decoupling is perhaps more common in business than in science, perhaps more common in other academic institutions than at MIT. Yet, I find it particularly unacceptable in science and completely incongruous with MIT's culture and mission.

Nikolai Slavov Postdoc in the biology department

# The problems with the presidents

#### The UAP should not have resigned, new UAP unqualified

By Ryan Normandin

STAFF COLUMNIST

The Tech has covered the extremely high rate of attrition in the Undergraduate Association (UA) previously, with Senators and members of Exec resigning in droves. In fact, this was one factor that drove the UA to restructure itself this past semester, in hopes of preventing such large-scale resignations in the future. It is ironic that the first individual to resign under the newly formed government is the UA President (UAP) himself, who spent the fall working on the solution.

Allan E. Miramonti '13 was elected as the first non-senior UAP since at least 1994 and was the only candidate in the running last spring. Despite his lack of experience and the public resignation of his vice-president, Alec C. Lai '13, Miramonti went on to engineer a largely successful semester, working effectively with the Senate and Restructuring Committee to create the new UA Council. This has put the UA in a delicate position; the transition period to this new government will set the precedent for how the council should operate in the future. It should be taken as an optimistic, fresh start to student-administration relations, and is a chance for the UA to finally become a functionally effective body. Yet now, the only individual suited to oversee such an important transition has abandoned his creation.

One would not imagine that Miramonti came to his decision easily or lightly, and perhaps it truly is necessary for his studies and well-being that he makes such a decision. But should he not have considered the time his classes would take when he ran for election last year? If he did consider his academic commitments and believed he would still be able to serve, then his decision to resign seems to indicate that, as many suspected, Miramonti was too young and inexperienced to take on the role.

Yet Miramonti is not entirely to blame for the situation that the UA is now in; rath-

er, the undergraduates of MIT bear a share of the responsibility. Had Miramonti not stepped up and run, there likely would have been zero registered candidates on the ballot. Because of the infamous apathy of MIT students on issues of student government, an inexperienced, unprepared UAP was elected in place of someone more knowledgeable and better-suited for the position. Why was there no one who cared enough to step up and run against Miramonti? A primary goal of the new UA needs to be to kindle interest in student government through action, a positive reputation, and an inviting work environment so that we have candidates who are experienced, qualified, and knowledgeable about what they are getting themselves into when they run for UAP.

One would not imagine that Miramonti came to his decision easily or lightly, and perhaps it truly is necessary for his studies and well-being that he makes such a decision.

An additional problem with any UAP resigning halfway through the year lies in the relationship with the administration. The UAP is typically the one who handles meetings and negotiations with administrators, and this was true in Miramonti's case. Presumably, he had build solid working relationships with MIT's administrators over the fall. Yet now, the UAVP, who had focused largely on internal matters, will have to start completely from scratch, at least in external matters. This is disadvantageous to both students and administrators, for such a change is sure to slow progress, and it could allow the administration a window in which to take advantage of a new, inexperienced UAP.

Of course, this problem would have been mitigated slightly had, when Lai resigned, Miramonti selected as his Vice-President an individual who compensated for his lack of experience. Despite the application of individuals fitting just that profile, he selected TyShaun Wynter, an individual with absolutely no experience in the UA. In the email in which Miramonti announced his decision, he cited Wynter's leadership positions in ROTC and New House and his abilities as a "quick learner and critical thinker." Honestly, you'd be hard-pressed to find someone at MIT who does not satisfy the last two qualities, and while the first two are great, general leadership experience does not translate into the ability to maneuver through an organization as large and important as the UA; only experience in the UA, which Wynter lacks, would suffice.

The undergraduate government at MIT will be run by two students who were not elected to serve in those roles, which is certainly not a good thing.

Now, as the UA goes through arguably one of its most important periods in recent memory, it is being led by someone who has spent a single semester in the UA and whose selection as UAVP is not beyond question. A further problem lies in the fact that neither Wynter nor whomever he appoints as the new UAVP will have been elected by the student body. The undergraduate government at MIT will be run by two students who were not elected to serve in those roles, which is bad. As such, one of two things needs to happen: either Miramonti should reverse his decision, or Wynter should compensate for his lack of experience by doing what Miramonti failed to do. He needs to reach out to someone who has extensive experience and inside knowledge of the UA, someone who was intimately involved in the crafting of the documents creating the new UA Council and had been active in the UA even before that. If he fails to do this, it is very likely that Wynter will fail the UA and fail as UAP.

#### 0.

A Feb. 1 article incorrectly stated that the total applications received by MIT for the Class of 2016 increased by 1 percent from the previous year. MIT received 18,088 total applications this year, a 5.84 percent increase from the 17,090 applications received last year.

An article published last Wednesday about housing costs ambiguously lists dormitory prices as "per year." They are per semester.

A Feb. 1 article about Super Bowl predictions incorrectly refers to this year's Super Bowl as a matchup between the Green Bay Packers and Pittsburgh Steelers. That was last year — our bad! It's the Patriots versus the Giants in 2012.

A Jan. 25 article implied that proposed MBTA cuts would eliminate weekday service after 10 p.m. entirely. In fact, the proposal only cuts service after 10 p.m. on the commuter rail.

#### **OPINION POLICY**

**CORRECTIONS** 

**Editorials** are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the Editorial Board, which consists of Chairman Aislyn Schalck, Editor in Chief Jessica J. Pourian, Managing Editor Connor Kirschbaum, Executive Editor Ethan A. Solomon, and Opinion Editor Andy Liang.

**Dissents** are the signed opinions of editorial board members choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to *letters@tech.mit.edu*. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters

will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will be given higher priority. Once submitted, all letters become property of *The Tech*, and will not be returned. Letters, columns, and cartoons may also be posted on *The Tech*'s Web site and/or printed or published in any other format or medium now known or later that becomes known. *The Tech* makes no commitment to publish all the letters received.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Guest columns} are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community. \end{tabular}$ 

#### **TO REACH US**

The Tech's telephone number is (617) 253-1541. E-mail is the easiest way to reach any member of our staff. If you are unsure whom to contact, send mail to <code>general@tech.mit.edu</code>, and it will be directed to the appropriate person. You can reach the editor in chief by e-mailing <code>eic@tech.mit.edu</code>. Please send press releases, requests for coverage, and information about errors that call for correction to <code>news@tech.mit.edu</code>. Letters to the editor should be sent to <code>letters@tech.mit.edu</code>. The Tech can be found on the World Wide Web at <code>http://tech.mit.edu</code>.

# Sensitivity for Cynthia

#### Cynthia Nixon is gay by choice, hear her out

By Andy Liang OPINION EDITOR

Recently Cynthia Nixon, one of the stars on Sex in the City, has been under fire among the lesbian, gay, and bisexual communities for saying that she had chosen to be gay, as she noted in an New York Times

"And for me, [homosexuality] is a choice. I understand that for many people it's not, but for me it's a choice, and you don't get to define my gayness for me."

Cynthia Nixon has been touted as an advocate for gay rights since her coming out in 2004 and her recent work with petitioning for nationally legalized gay marriage. Currently partnered with fiancé, Christine Marinoni, Cynthia lives her life openly and has become a role model for the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community. Thus her outwardly statement has incensed so many whom look up to her.

One angered activist, John Aravois, writing on AmericaBlog,

'When the religious right, and other gay-

haters, say that being gay is a choice...what they really mean is that gay men are into women, but we somehow 'choose' to be into guys instead, and we can unchoose anv time we want and start being into women again, which is ridiculous. That's what Cynthia Nixon 'confirmed' when she told the Times that being gay is a choice."

#### No one should be pigeonholed into one category, especially when it does not represent them fully.

The vitriol tossed at Cynthia is like a hot potato that is messy and unsettling. Cynthia speaks solely for herself. She mentions only her "gayness," and her "gayness" only. Nowhere in her interview did she state that gay men can "unchoose" to be gay to start being with women (she's not a gay man!). The argument that Cynthia makes for herself is very different from the arguments that the "gay-haters" make. Gay-haters use the idea of choice to de-legitimize homosexuality. Cynthia uses the idea of choice to legitimize her own making of preference in partners. Indeed her choice of words made her sound politically incorrect, but she speaks merely for herself, and not for the community.

Talking about issues of homosexuality or bisexuality is touchy. Sometimes so much so that gay activists are whistleblowing on those who are saying nothing wrong. These activists strive to be the most politically correct (I should know, I was an activist myself). In a gayer-than-thou spirit, the Gladiators of the Gays like Aravois tell everyone around them that gay men are men who like men only; lesbians are women who like women only; and bisexuals are those who like both. But it is not that simple: human sexuality encapsulates a colorful spectrum.

No one should be pigeonholed into one category, especially when it does not represent them fully. For Cynthia, she did not want to simply be stamped "bisexual."

"While I don't often use the word, the

technically precise term for my orientation is bisexual," she said, "I believe bisexuality is not a choice, it is a fact. What I have 'chosen' is to be in a gay relationship."

Cynthia Nixon is due to marry Marinoni this May in a wedding officiated by Gene Robinson, the first openly gay priest. Cynthia continues to stand by the gay community, and is asking for them to stand by her.

I write this column not because I think that MIT students could become more sensitive to Cynthia Nixon's feelings, but to each other's. Often MIT students pigeonhole each other. It's easy to do when your major is course "blank" and you are living in east or west campus. You get stereotyped. But we are more than that. We each came to MIT from different backgrounds; we should respect each other and each wear our own colors proudly. That is what makes MIT such the wonderful place to live, learn, and

So as a reminder for the start of spring semester: Don't forget your sensitivity trainings during Orientation, and have a great first week of classes!

# Sound and fury, signifying nothing

#### Congress should just take the next nine months off

By Keith Yost

STAFF COLUMNIST

In his brief campaign for the presidency, Rick Perry uttered quite a bit of nonsense. Between the numerous debate gaffes, the self-contradiction of his hard-money populism, and, in his desperate endgame, the obscene groping for the support of social conservatives, Texas Rick was an inestimable source of I-winced-so-hard-I-laughed-style humor. I thought he was just as entertaining as Steve Carell's character on The Office...so long as I could avoid stumbling over a grim reminder that Mr. Perry was running for reallife leader of the free world, not running a paper company in an NBC sitcom.

One of the outlandish policy ideas that never failed to elicit a chuckle from me was Mr. Perry's notion of converting Congress into a "part-time" legislature that worked only half the hours that it currently puts in. It struck me as nutty; how would it be an improvement for lawmakers to split their specialization with something other than lawmaking? How would the balance of power between our governing branches hold up if a half-time legislature had to battle with a full-time executive? And who in their right mind would want less effort out of Congress

#### Who in their right mind would want less effort out of Congress instead of more?

However, as I watched the president's recent State of the Union, I had a change of heart on Perry's proposal. The height of the inanity came at the 48th minute, when President Obama exhorted Congress with this

"Send me a bill that bans insider trading by members of Congress; I will sign it

Congress erupted in applause after this line. For one shining, televised moment, the president, vice president, and every legislator and dignitary in attendance decided to collectively pretend that insider trading by Congress was legal.

It isn't, of course, and there is not very much ambiguity on the subject either. There are no special loopholes for legislators, no exemptions on the books that grant them immunity from SEC prosecution. Congressmen are prohibited from trading on material, nonpublic information to the same extent as, say, journalists or lawyers, as established by section 10b of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 and clarified by the Supreme Court case of United States v. O'Hagan.

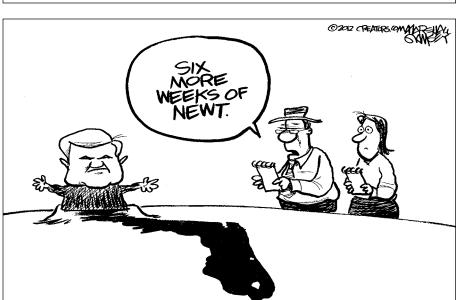
This hasn't prevented both the House and Senate from rushing such bills through their respective chambers in the past few days. The last time Congress passed a full budget was April of 2009, but Washington imagines its time is best spent on passing redundant

To some degree, this is just the normal modus operandi of D.C. Every once in a while, some issue comes along that seizes public attention in such a way that government is forced to move for motion's sake. The difference is that this is an election year. Motion for motion's sake is the default, not the occasional lapse. Every elected official is in an extended defensive crouch, unwilling to give their November competitors any potential ammunition, any evidence that, rightly or wrongly, might make them disagreeable to their constituents. I'd give even money that in the next nine months, Congress will accomplish nothing of import, choosing to declare their affection for motherhood and apple pie rather than tackle a pressing issue.

Every once in a while, some issue comes along that seizes public attention in such a way that government is forced to move for motion's sake.

Broken clocks are right twice a day. Maybe in his self-immolating run at a national office, Perry stumbled across an unconventional idea that deserves consideration: make Congress part-time, and send those up for re-election home until November. At the rate this year is going, we wouldn't miss them.









6 THE TECH Tuesday, February 7, 2012

# JPPORT



# RELATIONSHIP

A diverse group of MIT student leaders have signed this statement in support of the U.S.-Israel relationship, including Student Council Members, Student Organization Presidents, Athletic Team Captains, and Greek Organization Presidents. The list below samples the names of those who signed\* in support.

**Shelley Ackerman** 

The Tech Sports Editor

Eloho Akpovi

Black Student Union Attorney General

Jacob Albritton

Sigma Chi Fraternity Employee Supervisor

Rachel Bandler

MIT Students for Israel

President

Charlie Barr Zeta Psi Fraternity

Vice President

Dextina Booker

National Society of Black Engineers

Freshman Committee Treasurer

Michael Buchman

Solar Electric Vehicle Team Mechanical Engineering Lead

Camila Caballero

Amphibious Achievement Academic Coordinator

Kavita Chandra

Medlinks Vice President

Richard Dahan

**AEPI Fraternity** Master

Ido Efrati

Member

Class of 2014 Ring Committee

**Eric Emer** 

Global Startup Workshop

Panel Leader

**Charles Epstein AEPI Fraternity** 

Historian

Rose Feldman

Equestrian Team Show Captain

MIT Fighting World Hunger International Relations Officer

Jared Forman

Gordon Engineering Leadership Program

Noa Ghersin

President

Hillel

Patrick Gichuiri

MIT Students for Israel Campus Political Coordinator

Illan Halpern

**AEPI Fraternity** 

Secretary

**Allison Hamilos** American Red Cross Team and Network Director of Health and Safety Services

Elina Hu

Swim Team

Captain

Maya Hubbard Burton Side

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Tech Catholic Community

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Maseeh Hall Resident Advisor

Jamie Kang 2013 Class Council

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Experimental Study Group

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President

Paul Lazarescu **AEPI Fraternity** 

Exchequer and Pledge Master

Ariana Mann Vice President

MIT Students for Israel

Janille Maragh **Burton-Conner** 

President

Ellen McIsaac Society of Women Engineers

Dormitory Council President

Elijah Mena

The Tech Photography Editor Tara Mokhtari MIT Symphony Orchestra

Social Chair

Hilary Monaco

Undergraduate Society of Women in Math President

**Shannon Moran** Freshman Leadership Program

Coordinator

Alex Nachlas

**AEPI Fraternity** 

Risk Manager

Nathan Robert

MIT Logarhythms President

Elisabeth Rosen

Technique Staff Photographer

Anjali Thakkar National Society of College Scholars

President

Paula Trepman

Global Poverty Initiative

**Executive Director** 

Yael Schein

Hillel Outgoing President

Eliana Schleifer

2012 Class Council

Member

Marianna See

Women in Science and Engineering

**Harrison Siegel** 

MacGregor Student Government D-Entry Chair

Kwami Williams

Nu Delta Fraternity

Vice President

Jessica Yang

Kids Are Scientists Too, Inc. Director and Founder

Zach Ybarra

Nu Delta Fraternity President

Richard Yoon

Korean Students Association

Vice President

If you are interested in signing the statement or would like to learn more about the U.S.-Israel relationship, please contact MIT Students for Israel at mitsi-officers@mit.edu.

<sup>\*</sup>The views expressed are my own and do not represent the positions or opinions of my stated leadership role or organization.

THEATER REVIEW

# Hackers on stage

#### Immortalizing the works of the night

By Deena Wang

STAFF WRITER

Anyone who has been on an MIT campus tour has seen the pictures of great hacks of the past. Study here for a year, and you're sure to see a hack with your own eyes. Yet despite the knowledge that hackers are fellow students, the people that crawl between the walls and pull high-tech pranks remain a mystery to most. In *Hack, Punt, Tool,* hackers take center stage in a story steeped in MIT mythology. This new musical is written, scored, and orchestrated by MIT students. For those who have ever wondered who was behind the abduction of the Caltech cannon or the many creative alterations to the dome, this is the show for you.

# The musical featured the bizarre Novembat, a 'nightmare-horrormaw creature.'

The musical follows the story of freshman Billy Rogers (Trevor Mulchay '15), who wants nothing more than to be a "hardk0re" hacker. He and his frosh classmates — the enthusiastic Ryan Putz (Jonathan J. Surick '14) and premed Connor Burton (Anna Y. Ho '14) — join veteran hackers Corot and Tess in a plan to hack the Great Dome. However, their plans are opposed by Campus Police Sergeant Bruce E. Sprinkles (Luis M. Orrego '13) and his squad, who vow to stop any midnight shenanigans. Add with the vengeful upperclassman Kepler, and the monstrous "Novembat's" threats towards Billy and Tess's budding relationship, Story Jack's omniscient (and biased) narration, and a slew of quirky minor characters, and you've got a recipe for a Musical Theater Guild success.

This production features new talent in starring roles, with freshman Miles C. Kelsey pulling off the disillusioned Kepler. Daniel J. Gonzalez '14 both looks and acts the part of the hacker leader Corot, and Trevor J. Mulchay '15 and Allison M. Schneider '13 bring

to life the awkward yet adorable tension between Bill and Tess. Although there are no five-star voices, the musical finds its strength in its background characters. Chris L. Follett G's CP-mocking antics and snazzy purple costume shines as Story Jack, and Pauline P. Varley's '15 and Kate A. Roe's '14 roles as lesbian couple Electra and Mags steal the show with their convincing passion in "Distraction Tango." Other notable background characters include the caffeine-addicted Faraday (Lian Guertin '13), the innocent and oblivious CP Barry Claw (Rob B. Morrison '96), and cookie-toting team mom Hunter (Helen O'Keefe '09).

As you can probably guess by the character names, this show revels in camp. One of the more bizarre aspects of the play was the presence of the Novembat, a "nightmare-horror-maw creature" consisting of a bug-head, many tentacles, claws, and at least one hoof. The musical pokes fun at the obligatory love song with the number "Platonic Friends Again," in which Tess and Billy declare their "platonic" friendship while being threatened by the Novembat. Another ridiculous scene occurs when the hackers sneak past a newly-bolstered security system, featuring Hollywood computer hacking and lasers. Yet the unbelievableness of it all does not diminish the sincerity of Kepler and Billy's duet in "There's More to Life Than Tooling."

So how does this show match up to MTG's others? Although I didn't find the introductory songs to be incredibly catchy, Hack, Punt, Tool hits its stride with the light percussion in "Building," a perfect background for the sounds of construction. The modular set facilitated the action by providing cubbvholes for hackers to crawl into and serving as the backdrop for dorm rooms, a police station, and Killian Court all at once, although its bulkiness made scene changes long and awkward. As for costuming, I counted at least four and probably more trench coats, supplemented with ridiculously cool black outfits with vivid color edging, adding to the mystique of hackers.

In-jokes abound, but they should be mostly recognizable to MIT students. The murals in the dorm scenes are musical theater jokes or references to MIT murals and

clever one-liners on campus art and the dining plan are sprinkled throughout the show. If you're familiar with hacker lore, you'll recognize much of the beginning of "The World of the Hacker."

"I think the biggest Easter eggs are if you listen to Story Jack carefully," said Bowens-Rubin, who is also one of the musical's

Not only is this musical about MIT students — it was written by them as well. The project had its inception at a cast party for MTG's IAP 2011 show of *Jekyll and Hyde*, spurred by Julie Henion '11's longstanding desire to write a musical.

"I think somewhere around fall 2009 I became really into musical theater," Henion said, "I had thrown around, half seriously, half not, just the idea of writing a piece of theater in some way. I tried to do that on my own but it was just too much of a challenge."

Henion joined forces with Zachary B. Barryte '13, Bowens-Rubin, and Danbee "TaunTaun" Kim '09. The three wrote the musical together over the course of one year using a rather unusually-named process.

"It's called vomit writing," explained Bowens-Rubin. "Basically you just, no filters, write everything you can think of and just dump a bunch of material onto the page. ... We would pick out what we thought was the best from the vomit, which is why literally the book is just the three of our brains mushed all together."

#### Clever one-liners on campus art and the dining plan are sprinkled throughout the show.

As Stephen Sondheim said, musical comedies aren't written — they are rewritten, and *Hack, Punt, Tool* was no different.

"Myself and the lyricist would talk together and try to settle on something that I was comfortable with musically and he was comfortable with lyrically," Henion said, "then we would present it to the book writers

Hack, Punt, Tool

Directed by Rachel A. Bowens-Rubin '11 and Krista Sergi

**MIT Musical Theater Guild** 

Feb. 3,4 & 9–11, 2012 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 5, 2012 at 2 p.m.

La Sala De Puerto Rico

and sometimes to other people ... and then we would discuss and sometimes argue and eventually, after several drafts of that, we would settle on something everyone liked and we felt comfortable presenting to an audience. And sometimes when we got it in front of an audience, we even discovered things that none of us had thought about ... so we would even change things after that."

One of the main mysteries in the play is the identity of the hack, which consists of a Squid Net, a Science Box, and a Dragon Wing but is never fully revealed.

"It was very important to us to represent hacking in a way that really celebrated the hacking community," Henion explained, "one of the things we thought would be good was to not display a hack. Either an existing hack or a hack that we made up because we didn't want to say 'oh, this hack is the epitome of awesome hacks' ... All the viewers can use their imagination to as to what it might be that they would have been putting on the dome."

Hack, Punt, Tool captures the myths and realities of life at MIT and immortalizes them on stage. Whether you're a grad student or an undergrad, East Campus or West Campus, Course 18 or Course 7, you're sure to agree that "there's more to MIT than earning your degree."

For those who want a copy of the show after it has finished running, the writers plan on releasing a cast recording on the Bandcamp website on a donation basis. T-shirts and DVDs will be sold at all performances. All proceeds will go towards funding MTG.

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8 THE TECH







by Jorge Cham









# Sudoku

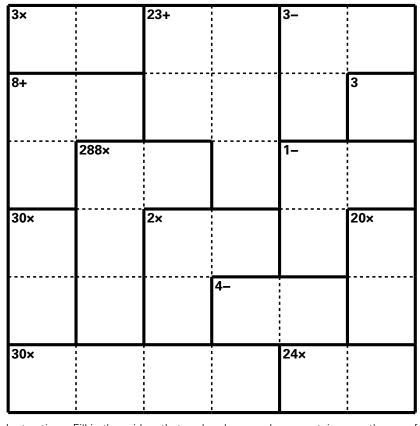
Solution, page 16

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Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

# **Techdoku**

Solution, page 16

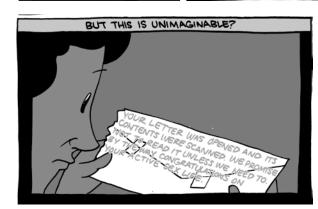








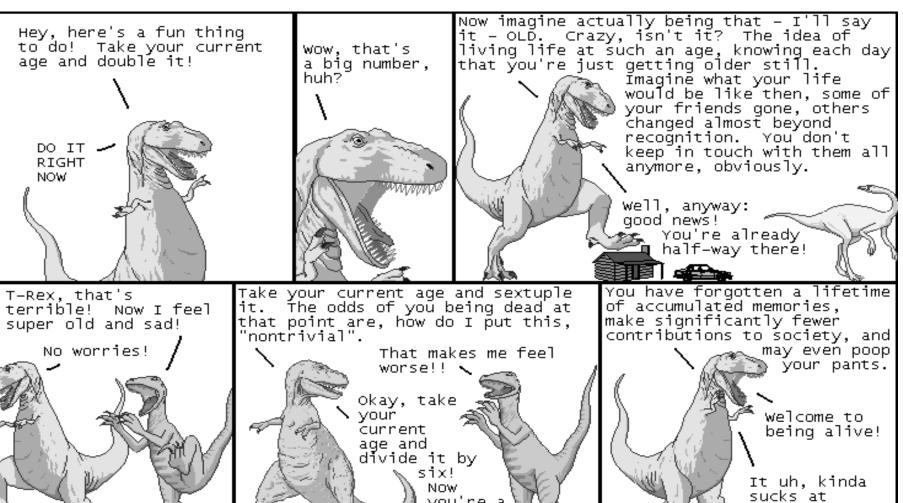








FUN FACT: PEOPLE ARE CITIZENS WHILE ON THE INTERNET TOO



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36 | 37 | 38

both ends!

# Saturday Stumper By Lars G. Doubleday

Solution, page 16

(C) 2012 Ryan North

#### **ACROSS**

6 Conclusive procedures 15 Fan site

16 "10-4"

17 City east of Delft

18 Longfellow lover

19 It may be underfoot

21 Marked, in a way

22 Olivier Award winner of

23 They're essential to a Dairy Queen "Blizzard"

25 Divide

26 "Start Here" sloganeer

27 Beloved Hollywood nickname

29 Put down

30 Didn't go together

32 Put over

34 Pulitzer winner for The Good War

35 Evidence of some accents

39 Athlete's jitters

41 Surpassed

42 GM news of 2010

45 Prime time for oysters

47 Shell filling

48 Union election agcy.

50 Show fear, perhaps 51 Something to rattle

52 Possible results of raptness

54 Source of fast-acting carbs

56 2007 Best Director Oscar sharer

58 "Bow down, archangels, in your dim \_\_": Yeats 59 Posted

60 Dockers' cousins

61 Certain racers

62 Ticket seller

#### **DOWN**

1 Vaudeville staple

2 Venial

3 Certain racer

4 Astronomical study

5 Jeremy Irons in The Lion King

6 Carrying mail

7 Went around in circles

8 Of volcanic origin

9 Hiding place

10 Memorable King Kong

opponent

12 Not hot, perhaps 13 Greek bread

spread 14 Won't change

20 "And that's the truth!"

24 Caricaturist

27 \_\_ Finest Hour (Churchill book)

28 Mel Brooks' Robin Hood

31 Heavens

33 Nipper

36 Willing to

consider 37 Barrack-Room

Ballads verse 38 Spanish patron

project

40 A VIP 41 Listens carefully

42 Eat

43 River followed by the Pony Express 44 Unfunded, as a research

46 Refusal of assistance

16

40

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49 Overcomes

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39

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45

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51 Space starter

32

35

53 Presumptuous person

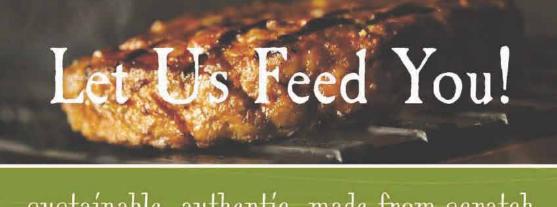
55 Festive

57 Cedar Rapids school

10 THE TECH Tuesday, February 7, 2012



On Jan. 30, the Building 8 end of the Infinite Corridor was crowded with spectators to witness MIThenge. MIThenge is a phenomenon that occurs twice a year when the setting sun aligns with the axis of the Infinite Corridor. The next predicted occurrence is Nov. 10, 2012 (source: http://web.mit.edu/planning/ www/mithenge.html).



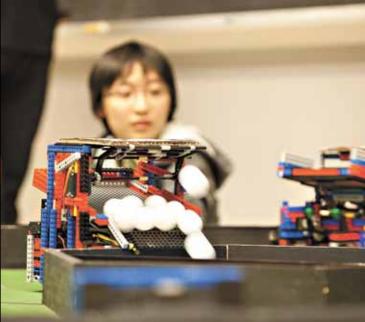
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Jessie T. Zhang '15 overlooks her robot during the 6.270 final competition. In the IAP course 6.270, the Autonomous Robot Design Competition, Lego robots faced-off in a hexagon ring and scored by dropping white balls that they collected into the central cavity. Tull N. Gearreald '12, Mark A. Chodas '12, and Stephen H. Salinas '12 received three MacBook Airs for their winning robot, "Martin the Paranoid Android."



From left; Stephan Boyer '13, Rachel Fong '12, and Mark C. Wittels '13 hold their first place trophies for winning 6.470, the web programming competition, with their project Asler.org last Thursday.

#### FEB. 07 – FEB. 11

#### TUESDAY

(6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.) Daylight Simulation in Design — 7-431 (The Long Lounge)

#### WEDNESDAY

(9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) Spacewar! Turns 50: MIT Celebrates Its Earliest Computer Game — Outside 32-123

(4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.) How the lonosphere of Mars Works — 54-915

#### **FRIDAY**

(12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.) The Darwin-Lincoln Birthday Forum: A discussion of Darwin, Lincoln and the struggle for human equality

(2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.) Taking Inventory of the Universe: Exploring the Mystery of Dark Matter with the MiniCLEAN Experiment — 26-414 (Kolker Room)

#### SATURDAY

(9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.) TechTalks 2012: A series of short lectures by prominent figures in the tech industry — 10-250

#### MONDAY

(12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.) Music Author Book Release: Seeking the Infinite by Dr. Frederick Harris — 14E-109 (Lewis Music Library)

(8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.) Vicky Chow, Bang on a Can All-Stars pianist Cage Recital — Killian Hall

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# WILG

#### Spring Rush Schedule

Visit our website at wilg.mit.edu for directions and details.

#### TUESDAY, FEB. 7

7 PM: Fajitas

8 PM: FroYo at Berryline

#### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8

7 PM: Chicken & Eggplant

8 PM: Cupcake Decorating

#### THURSDAY, FEB. 9

7 PM: Chili & Cornbread 7:30 PM: ZUMBA

#### FRIDAY, FEB. 10

7 PM: Homemade Pizza 10:30 PM: Crepes

#### SATURDAY, FEB. 11

7 PM: Salmon & Risotto 8 PM: Cheesecake & A

#### SUNDAY, FEB. 12

Cappella

1:30 PM: How I Met Your Mother Marathon

7 PM: Indian Food

MONDAY, FEB. 13

7 PM: Breakfast for Dinner

#### TUESDAY, FEB. 14

7 PM: Tomato Soup & Grilled Cheese

8 PM: Chocolate & Cheese Soiree

#### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15

7 PM: Spaghetti Dinner

#### THURSDAY, FEB. 16

7 PM: Burgers & Fries 8 PM: Tropical Smoothies

#### FRIDAY, FEB. 17

7 PM: Thai Curry & Bubble Tea



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### Tuesday 2/7

- 5:15 Dinner Come over for some curried lamb or chickpeas!
- 7:15 Manhunt I will find you there can be no escape. (On campus!)
- 9:15 Board Game Night We have over 150 board games in our basement. Come play some of them.

# Thursday 2/9

- 5:15 Dinner Peanut satay chicken and veggie stir-fry
- 7:15 Laser Maze Homemade laser security system, Nerf gun guards, what else could budding spies want?

# Saturday 2/11

- 12:15 Lunch Burgers! Also, veggle burgers!
- 1:45 Duck Duck Variations We've incorporated Mafia, Mortal Kombat, and more into this classic children's game.
- 3:45 The Resistance You're the mafia! No, you're the mafia! Wait, maybe you're Snape... Come play our favorite mafialike game.
- 5:15 Dinner Chicken or mushroom marsala~
- 7:15 Puzzle Hunt Mystery Hunt wasn't enough for you? Never heard of it? Something in between? Come participate in a mini-puzzle hunt, written by Thetans.



# Wednesday 2/8

- 5:15 Dinner Tortelloni~!
- 7:15 Speed Science Poetry You have 30 seconds to write a haiku about zirconium. Go.
- 9:15 Mysterycraft It's a Viking! It's a Corruptor! No, it's a Medivac that attacks like a Mutalisk! Come play Starcraft 2 with unknown mods. We'll have computers, though feel free to bring your own.

# Friday 2/10

- 5:15 Alum Dinner Build your own pizza! 7:15 - Giant Origami Thing - Have you ever
- seen a paper crane the size of Canada?
- 9:15 Artsy Video Games Challenge your notions of time, gravity, human emotion, and the meaning of art - with video games Discussion and debate encouraged!

# Sunday 2/12

- 12:15 Lunch Clam chowder and minestrone for your noms.
- 1:45 Battleship Twister "Green two." "Ow, you sunk my left foot!" Come play a fusion of these two games.
- 3:45 Win my Dollar Come participate in an iterated prisoner's dilemma, bid in a dollar bill auction, and choose which envelope to take in a game theorist's dream come true.
- 5:15 Flapjaxxson's The Archduke of Pancakes invites you to a wonderful feast of his signature pastry.
- 7:15 Bad Movie Night A psychic tire making people's heads explode? Oh yes.





Tuesday, February 7, 2012 THE TECH **13** 

# Gaggle cops 132nd Managing Board elections

SPECIAL TO THE TECH

"You're probably wondering why I gathered you all here outside the student center," said Aislyn "Museum of Science" Schalck **'13**, the new Chairman of *The Tech*. "There is a crazed serial killer on the loose, and you four are the only ones I can fully trust to help me in my investigation. I have determined that none of you could possibly be the killer."

"Editor in chief Jessica J. 'Red and Black' Pourian '13, I'm sure it cannot be you. The most recent Zelda game was released last night, and not even a thirst for blood could break you away from the game.

"Business Manager Joe 'Hates Fun' Maurer '12, I'm just as confident that you aren't the killer. Your constant talking to yourself would make it impossible for you to sneak up on someone.

"Managing Editor **Connor** 'Ron Paul' Kirschbaum '13, a half-eaten plate of wings was discovered by your computer station last night. Given your usual rate of consumption, I know that must have taken you at least six hours of focused effort to eat that much. Therefore, you could not possibly have had time to murder these

Executive Editor Ethan 'Extended Hit-Box' Solomon '12, I also know the killer can't be you. Taylor Swift's songs promote love and peace, and you're too much of a devoted follower to have strayed so far from her teachings," finished the new Chairman.

'We need to get moving," continued Aislyn. "It appears that the killer is targeting members of The Tech's new volume 132 managing board. We should start our investigation in the Tech office."

Ding. The elevator doors opened to the fourth floor of the student center, and Aislyn walked briskly down the hallway, her four trusted team members in tow. As they passed by the abandoned Undergraduate Association office, Jessica let out a gasp. The corpse of News Editor Derek "Everybody Looks Up to Me" Chang '14 was slumped against the door of the Tech office.

"He didn't stand a chance," sighed Aislyn. "He never could remember the door code."

Muttering to himself, Joe yanked the door open without hesitation and was met with an even more gruesome sight. Sprawled around the news board were the corpses of the three remaining News editors: Anne "SQUAWK-FLAIL" Cai '14, marker in hand, had been unable to finish adding her breaking news to the board ("45 Tech Staffers brutally murdered by—"); in his cold fingers, Stan "Nothing changed in Walker ... again" Gill's '14 phone glows his final unsent mess his girlfriend ("I can't make dinner tonight because I'm being stabbed by-"); and Deborah "Just give me a cat so I can die already" Chen's '14 now-icy grip barely concealed one of the department's voice recorders. Ethan pried the recorder out of Deborah's hand and pressed the play button.

"My spleen! I never would've thought we'd all be so brutally murdered by-," Her voice crackled through before turning into an ear-piercing shriek.

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"If only they were faster reporters," Ethan said, shaking his head morosely. "They didn't meet their

It was then that Connor noticed that Gary Starkweather, The Tech's enormous color printer, had been overturned.

"Wait a minute, that's not magenta ink!" Connor exclaimed, examining the dark pool spreading from under Gary. "That's production editors Stephanie 'Secret Smasher' Ku '14 and sritter 'Sarah' Ritter '14!" He peeled the tabloid-sized proof that had fallen out of Gary off the floor.

'They used their dying breaths to design an infographic ..." It was a line chart entitled "Number of Tech Staffers who have turned into serial killers." From 1881 to 2011 on the x-axis the line remained at 0, but in 2012 ... "Oh my god! According to this chart, the killer was a Tech staff member!" Connor sadly dropped the page in the recycle bin. He didn't have the heart to mention that the infographic had been made in rich black.

The group warily proceeded to the conference room. On the table was a mountain of printed out articles. Some were marked up with red sharpie, others apparently with blood. "Oh no!" cried Jessica. "This can only be ..." She shifted aside the mound of rough drafts to discover the gaunt corpse of Andy "Froyo" Liang'14, the Tech's opinion editor. "What a horrible way to go," she sighed, picking up one of the pages, "forced to read and edit Keith Yost articles until he died of frustration. I wouldn't wish this on my worst enemy."

Aislyn contemplated the scene from the doorway.

"This murder of our Opinion editor is especially inhumane. We can safely assume that the murderer is someone who is extremely opinionated."

A tangy smell emanated from the adjacent TV room.

'This can't be good," muttered Joe. The five investigators enter the room to find Shelley "Stealth Driver" Ackerman '13 and Sarah "Double Agent" Weir '14, The Tech's sports editors, crushed under the television. Joe leaned over to pick up a tin of wings. "This was the source of the smell," he sighed, "but our editors' hands aren't covered in sauce. Apparently they didn't get to enjoy their final Sunday night football wings." He backed away, overcome with

'Wait a minute!" yelled Ethan. "Where are the Jamaican Jerk flavored wings? If our sports editors didn't eat them, the killer must

"Jamaican Jerk?" Jessica muttered "It doesn't make sense ...'

"And the Super Smash Bros. cartridge is missing!" Connor had ror and shock at the atrocity of the missing piece of plastic. "That monster...

"This is so sad," cried Jessica. "If only we had a violin to provide a somber sound-track to this investigation." Unfortunately she got her wish, for it was at that moment the group noticed the corpse of Arts editor Kathryn "Secretly Hardcore" Dere '13, who had clearly tried and failed to fend off the attacker with her violin bow.

"Dear lord, in her final mo-

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Bengal

ments she created an abstract painting on the floor with her blood!" exclaimed Ethan. "I am continually impressed with our editors' dedication to their newspaper duties," said Jessica.

"But what did she paint?" pondered Aislyn. "It looks like ... a Vneck tshirt?"

Connor took a closer look. "I don't think so. It looks more like a regular T-shirt with heavy pens attached to the neckline, creating the illusion of a V-neck."

"It's open to interpretation. That's why it's abstract," argued Aislyn. "We'll never know for sure what piece of apparel Kathryn was trying to depict."

Their next stop was the dark room. Opening the heavy dark room door, Joe turned off the ceiling fan which whirred overhead. Odd, he thought. In the dimly-lit room, he didn't notice the three dead bodies on the floor until he tripped over them. "Frack!" Peacefully arranged on the dark room floor were the corpses of Photo editors Elijah "Laser Cat" Mena '13, Jessica "Pierce Boathouse" Wass '14, and Chris "Not a Sophomore" Maynor'15.

"It seems all of the air was sucked out of the room, based on these fancy darkroom sensor readings," remarked Aislyn. "But how? Unless our killer is an air bender, something like this shouldn't be possible!

"Fan Death strikes again!" Connor muttered, well aware of the irony. If only the photo editors had

"I guess we'll never know the specifics," replied Ethan. The ceiling fan finally whirred to a stop.

Jessica pried a camera out of Chris's cold, dead hands. "Maybe he got a photo of his killer!" she exclaimed. The five investigators excitedly huddled around the camera's LCD screen. "Damnit!" She yelled. "The killer covered the lens with his hand in each of these shots. Guess he didn't like getting his photo taken."

It was then that Joe, noticing a

heap of electronics in the corner, let out an enraged roar.

"HE DESTROYED THE IN-PROGRESS PHOTO CUBBIES!" screamed Joe. "They were so close to being functional!" The other four investigators felt pangs of intense sadness, for they all truly believed that Joe would have finished the photo cubbies had the killer not destroyed the parts.

As they exited the darkroom, Aislyn noticed a crumpled heap in the hallway. It was Deena "Can I bathe in the ink?" Wang '14, The Tech's campus life editor, and even in death she clutched the handles of her trusty scooter.

"It appears there was a chase here," noted Ethan, pointing to the skid marks on the floor. "The killer ran her over on a bike. A shiny new road bike, by the looks of these tread marks. In the end, Deena's scooter just wasn't quite maneuverable enough." Her campus life had finally run out.

Gaggle, Page 15



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14 The Tech Tuesday, February 7, 2012

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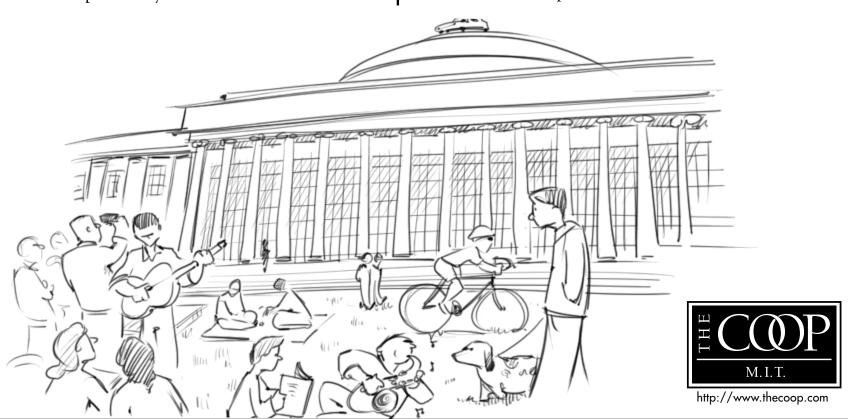
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#### **THE TECH 15**

#### Gaggle, from Page 13

"Who at *The Tech* could be capable of murdering all of these persons?" Joe wondered.

"Persons? That is not grammatically correct, Joe," said Jessica.

"Of course it is! It's just a fancier version of 'people!" replied Ethan.

Not bothering to reply to the childish claim, Jessica bounded across the room.

"There is only one way to settle this dispute. With the AP Style Guide!" She opened the drawer of the mahogany copy editing desk and let out a scream. The lifeless corpse of **Bruno "Thin Space" Faviero '15** had been stuffed into the large drawer, his cold fingers wrapped tightly around the AP Style Guide.

However, due to the rising body count in the office, Jessica quickly got over the gruesome sight and yanked the book out of his hands. "Aha! 'Persons' should only be used when it is part of a direct quote or title." She proclaimed with no small amount of smugness.

"Strange," mused Ethan, trying very hard to ignore the fact that even in death, the copy-editing department had defeated him once more. "Where are Bruno's sandals? Bruno always wore sandals."

"The killer must have taken them," said Aislyn. "But why?"

"Over here!" yelled Joe from the business office. He had discovered the dead bodies of Advertising Manager Moya "Approaching Hipster Glasses Level Guo" Chin '13 and Operations Manager Jennifer "RFP Wizard" Fong '13. "Moya was on the verge of a huge ad sale," sighed Joe. "We were planning to use the money to fund a new office security system. And Jennifer would have processed the RFP like a pro. What a tragedy."

There was a creak from across the room, and the five investigators looked up to see that the door to the safe was ajar and still gently swaying back and forth. "Our petty cash was stored in there," commented Joe, "the killer must have stolen it."

Expecting the worst, he opened the door "It's still here." He realized, sighing in relief. Joe picked up a stack of bills, inspecting them for trickery of some sort. "But ... wait a minute. All of our cash has been converted to two-dollar bills ... how bizarre!"

Connor noticed a red wheel protruding from behind the filing cabinet. Bracing himself for the inevitable extra germ risk of finding another body, he shifted aside the cabinet to reveal the corpse of Online Media Editor Joanna "Tall in Hong Kong" Kao '13, also clutching the handles of a scooter. "Oh no! Our first ever online media editor was also run over by the killer's deadly road bicycle!"

"But there are no skid marks in this room, no indication that she was chased." Remarked Jessica. "I think ... I think she just fell over by accident and died. What a horrible coincidence that it happened today."

"I always knew her reckless scootering would be the end of her," said Connor, shaking his head sadly.

"There is only one room left in this office," said Joe heavily. "The term room." He slowly opened the door to the term room, and dozens of corpses spilled out. "Frak!"

Contributing editors Jingyun "American" Fan '12, Judy "Puppet Master" Hsiang '12, Pearle "Fennec Fox" Lipinski '12, Maggie "50 Dollar Story" Lloyd '12, Robert "NO, PIKACHU!" McQueen '12, Sam "Ghosty McGhosty Pants" Range '13, and Michelle E. "I Have Staff" Szucs '14 rolled out of the room first.

They were followed by the corpses of Senior Editors Brian "He Man" Hemond G, Jeff "Inspect Each Other's Weaves" Guo '11, Michael "Rockband" Lin '11,

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# FNL addresses new students

#### Faculty wants 2030 plans to focus on academics

FNL, from Page 1

a piece in response to MIT 2030, stating that a view of how education might change before 2030 should be included in the vision of the next 20 years. He expresses that in order to avoid diluting the unique residence-based education experience, the effect of long distance learning such as MITx must be considered. While this technology enhanced learning is growing in popularity, it conflicts with the on campus educational experience that so many have come to value. Much of his argument is drawn from a 1998 study by the MIT Task Force on Student Life and Learning about the on-campus educational experience.

"Let's return to technologyenabled education and its role in MIT's future," Allen said, "How can developments in enhanced learning practices be leveraged to enhance the value added by a residence-based MIT education? The answer has to lie in creating and sustaining a unique on-campus learning community that successfully integrates elements of what the Task Force Report calls the 'educational triad' - research, academics, and community."

The FNL also addresses the future of MIT's course management program, Stellar. In Spring 2011, MIT IS&T evaluated Blackboard 9.1 for potential use in the future, pilot testing the platform with 14 courses across six different disciplines, involving 33 course administrators and over 600 MIT students. The technical evaluation of the Blackboard platform by IS&T yielded unfavorable results; the platform was plagued with compatibility and

update issues that were not readily correctable by IS&T, despite using a heavily customized version to cater to MIT's needs. Ninety percent of course administrators and 68 percent of students surveyed that took part in the evaluation preferred Stellar over Blackboard, citing that many features, including the gradebook tool, were harder to use in Blackboard. In light of this, the MIT Faculty committee on Learning Systems Management recommended that the MIT Council on Educational Technology, the administrative committee that sanctioned this test, cease all testing with the Blackboard platform and instead move resources to developing a Modular Service Framework that will gradually replace the current Sakai-2 based Stellar platform.

'The answer has to lie in... the "educational triad" — research, academics, and community.

> Samuel M. Allen FACULTY CHAIR

The FNL provided two important updates for issues regarding new students. For undergraduate freshman orientation, Meritt Roe Smith, the faculty chair for the Review Committee on Orientation, stated that the work for the report about orientation was nearly complete. This report will be delivered to Dean for Undergraduate Education Daniel E. Hastings PhD '80 and Dean for Student Life Chris Colombo at an undetermined date.

The report reviewed the challenges and purposes of freshman orientation activities such as orientation programming, freshman pre-orientation programs (FPOPs), the residential exploration period (REX), and FSILG rush. These recommendations will be the result of analysis done on data collected from several sources, including a survey given to the Class of 2015 during Fall 2011, that has been in progress since the committee was commissioned in

The second issue regarding new

students is the streamlining of the graduate admissions process. The current graduate admissions process is not unified across departments; the interfaces of many systems are not user-friendly, have no capability of real-time data reporting, and create administrative burdens due to the upkeep of manually entering and re-entering data. The Task Force on Improving Graduate Admissions Processes was formed in January 2011 by Dean of Graduate Education Christine Ortiz, to evaluate the graduate admissions process across all departments and give a recommendation to improve the process for both the administrators and applicants. This recommendation, which has already been given, calls for a switch from "a fragmented structure with multiple providers to an all-electronic system with one recommended and supported application provider." The electronic system they will use was developed by EECS Professors Frans Kaashoek and Robert Morris and is currently in use for the EECS graduate program. The new system will be phased in over the course of three admissions cycles, allowing departments to opt-in as the commercial vendors are phased out.



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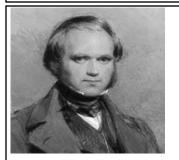
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# Glass at MIT Beauty and Utility

### **Opening Reception:**

Friday, February 10, 2-4pm Maihaugen Gallery (14N-130)

A new exhibition in the Libraries' Maihaugen Gallery explores glassmaking as revealed in glassware from MIT laboratories, blown glass from the MIT Glass Lab, and stunning stained glass windows from the Libraries' Charles J. Connick Stained Glass Foundation Collection. Tools, early photographs, and selections from rare books demonstrate the combination of artistry and engineering that goes into the creation of glass.

This event is free and open to the community.



libraries.mit.edu/maihaugen

Images top to bottom: Forrest Whitcher, Charles J. Connick Stained Glass Foundation Collection, MIT Museum, P. Bailey.

#### **Solution to Crossword** from page 9

Σ	Α	S	T	S		Α	C		D	T	Ε	S	T	S
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#### **Solution to Sudoku**

	from page 8												
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#### Solution to Techdoku

#### **Solution to Crossword**

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NEW LAW: CONGRESS MEMBERS ARE NOT ALLOWED

HOW DO WE KNOW THEY WON'T VOTE FOR CHILD PORN?

SMBC, from Page 9

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

The Tech 17

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Asian & Asian Diaspora

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Middle Eastern

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Science, Technology, and Society

Theater Arts

Urban Studies & Planning

Women's & Gender Studies

Writing

18 THE TECH TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012

# Miramonti resigns in the middle of UA transition

### For the semester, both the UA president and vice president will be unelected officials

UA, from Page 1

making sure I was ready ... making sure there wouldn't be a breakdown in leadership," Wynter said last Wednesday.

"I feel quite confident going into the semester," Wynter added.

Wynter said that it was unfortunate that Miramonti was stepping down, but that it should not necessarily be seen as a "bad thing." He assumes the presidency amidst the UA's transition to a new government.

"This presents a unique opportunity," he said. "With a new group of people, it's a good thing there's a new person to lead them."

The new UA council will meet this week at the earliest, according to Wynter. He said it was "likely" that dormitories would select their presidents to represent them on the Council by this time.

IFC President Thomas A. Anderson '13 said in an email last night

that the IFC will decide how to select their representatives this Wednesday, adding that one of the IFC's four representatives would be himself. Panhel President Denzil Sikka '13 said that Panhel is currently deciding how to select their representatives, and that one of their three representatives would be herself. Earlier restructuring plans called for IFC and Panhel presidents to serve on the Council, though the UA now gives them wider latitude to select

representatives.

David will retain her position as Class Council president after assuming the vice president role. "It's important that my class knows I'm not going to abandon them in any way. I do have full intentions to commit to UA VP and Class President."

"Personally, I love Class Council. I see Class Council as my hobby and it's something I don't want to leave," she added.

David, who said she scaled back

her course load this term to allow time to serve as UA vice president, was Class of 2013 vice president as a freshman, and has been Council president for the past two years. As UA vice president, she will likely have the job of managing internal UA matters, especially when it comes to the organization's myriad policymaking committees.

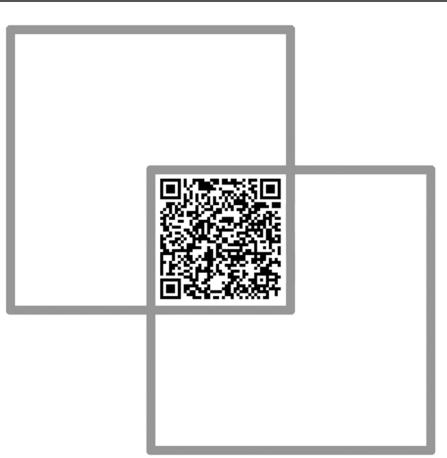
#### 'With a new group of people, it's a good thing there's a new person to lead them.'

TyShaun Wynter '13
UA PRESIDENT

"With my history as Class Council leader ... I'm strong in managing groups and working with logistics. So the HR interior role of VP is conducive to my skillset," said David. She has also served as the UA's assistant vice president for class council coordination.

As vice president, David says she'd like to work towards creating a "positive environment" for the UA's members, encouraging them to want to be a part of the government. She would not say whether she plans to run for president or vice president in the March UA elections.

Miramonti's is the latest in a string of resignations that the UA has seen over the past year. Several newly-elected senators resigned in the fall, right on the heels of the high-profile resignation of Lai in April. UA member retention has been cited as an issue the restructuring efforts will fix, according to a succession of UA committees that tackled restructuring.



# Class starts 2/14/12 at 8pm

La Sala Student Center

Be there and be square



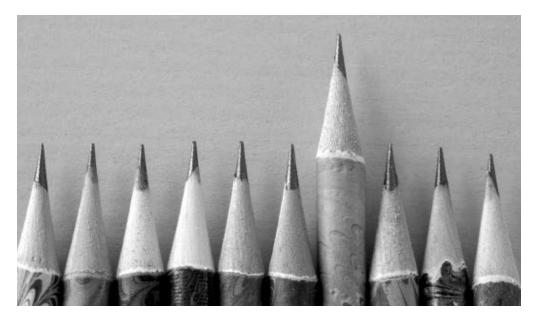
# Congratulations! 2012 Burchard Scholars

Ebaa Al-Obeidi
Noah Arbesfeld
Lawrence Barriner
Khristian Bauer-Rowe
Benjamin Bell
Archit Bhise
Assma Boughoula
Leslie Chan
Peter Changala
Brendan Deveney
Erica Du
Isaac Evans
Jean Fang
Anna Ho
Anne Holladay

Mark Kalinich
Aditya Kalluri
Catherine Koch
Joy Lee
Ting Mao
Jessica Pourian
Pranav Ramkrishnan
Jean Sack
Priyanka Saha
Jenny Shen
Sharone Small
Russell Spivak
Ngee Yong Teo
Elizabeth Toller

**Andrew Yang** 

Yiliu Zhang



The Burchard Scholars Program honors promising MIT sophomores and juniors who have demonstrated excellence in some aspect of the humanities, arts, and social sciences. Burchard Scholars join distinguished members of the MIT faculty for a series of dinner seminars, discussions, and performances to explore cutting-edge research in the humanities, arts, and social sciences in a collaborative format.

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SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES, ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

#### Gagglegaggle, from Page 15

Sherry "3 day processing" Yan '11, Ana "Yu Pu" Lyons '12, Greg "Made All the Money" Steinbrecher '12, David "Wait, Why Am I Still Here?" Zhu '12, and Jessica "Crayons Were a Bad Influence" Liu '13.

But the term room still hadn't been entirely evacuated of corpses. Still piled on the floor of the term room were Advisory board members Paul "The oldest again" Schindler '74 and V. Michael "Awesome website" Bove '83, Barry S. "Still in journalism" Surman '84 and Robert E. "Maurer and Steinbrecher ally" Malchman '85, Deborah A. "Design expert" Levinson '91 and Jonathan E.D. "I only review first-rate things" Richmond PhD '91, and the LA Times expertise of Karen "Not the test" Kaplan '93, Saul "Typography" Blumenthal '98 and Frank "Not in journalism" Dabek '00, Eric J. "Businessman" Cholankeril '02 and Dan "Photoiournalism master" Bersak '02. Jordan "Across the pond" Rubin '02 and Nathan "Still writing" Collins SM '03, Keith "I'm coming back!" Winstein '03 and Akshay R. "Smooth" Patil '04, Tif-

fany "Actually showed up for her election" Dohzen '06 and Beckett "Diplomat" Sterner '06, Marissa Vogt '06 and Michael McGraw-Herdeg'08 are looking for a panda to officiate their wedding, Zachary "Lives adjacent to a bar" Ozer '07 and Ricardo "as Drunk as Zach" Ramirez '09, Omari "Vault his Pole" Stephens '08 and Andrew "Drinks Coke, Works at Pepsi" Lukmann '07, Marie Thibault '08 and Angeline Wang '09 gave their lives as past pre-med EICs, so did Nick "G&T" Semenkovich '09, but not B.D. "Grey Beard" Colen. Finally was Quentin "Cameraman" Smith '10.

While Jessica, Joe, Connor, and Ethan continued to investigate the term room, Aislyn wandered over to the dark, ominous kitchen to clear her head and eat a strawberry popsicle. It doesn't make sense! No member of *The Tech* is capable of such a methodically devious operation. No member except ...

She was shocked to hear a clatter at her feet. Just an empty pie plate! she thought, slowly leaning down to pick it up. I have to stop being so paranoid. It was then she realized that she hadn't heard Joe loudly swear from the term room for nearly 40 seconds. Aislyn whipped around just in time to see

a shadowy figure looming from the darkness of the term room, leaving four fresh corpses in his wake.

"You!" she cried. "It can't be!"
"That was news...pie...only..."
And then everything went black.

\*\*\*

Aislyn swiftly awoke, in the middle of the news room, surrounded by all of her fellow volume 132 managing board members. Tears of joy and relief streamed down her face. "Oh thank heavens!" she cried, "I had a horrible nightmare that we had to run another managing board elections meeting!"



# MIT falls to Harvard, 3-1

#### Men's Volleyball put up a tough fight vs. the Crimson

By Shri Ganeshram

SPORTS STAFF

The MIT Men's Volleyball team, ranked sixth nationally, fell to Harvard last week in a close



MIT started the game well, leading throughout the opening set at 5-1. Harvard quickly diminished that lead to 11-10, but MIT persisted for the rest of the first set, finishing with a strong 10-4 run to win 25-15.

The second set was the opposite. Harvard started the game with an early lead, ahead 6-3. Just as Harvard narrowed the score gap to one the second and was behind only 14-13. Yet Harvard managed to push through with a 10-3 run, assuring the team of victory in that second set.

The third set started out very close, with MIT right behind Harvard, 8-7, and there was still hope for the Engineers. But a scoring boost from Harvard ended the game with a larger gap with a final score of 25-16.

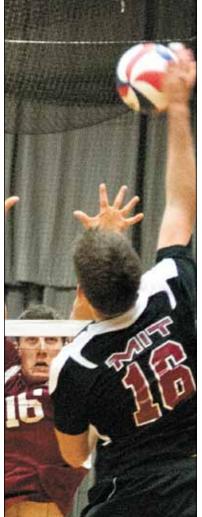
The fourth and final set was very close, but Harvard was able to pull away with the win thanks to a strong 6-1 start.

Senior David R. Thomas started for the Engineers, finishing the games off with 13 kills, six digs, four blocks, and two aces - a very impressive performance.

MIT Men's Volleyball will play next on



The Men's Volleyball team prepares to play a point in Saturday's game against Harvard. Despite starting strong, the Engineers lost to the Crimson last week by 3-1.



Alexander C. Klein '15 spikes the ball during Saturday's men's volleyball game against Harvard. The Engineers won the first set 15-25, but lost 3-1 to Harvard overall in the Rockwell Cage.

#### **UPCOMING HOME EVENTS**

Wednesday, Feb. 8

Men's Basketball vs. Babson College Women's Basketball vs. Babson College

Alexander C. Klein '15 serves for MIT

in Saturday's game against Harvard

6 p.m., Rockwell Cage 8 p.m., Rockwell Cage

# Men's basketball beats Wheaton, Springfield

Engineers take in two more wins, only one home game remains in the season

By Shri Ganeshram

SPORTS STAFF

Last week was quite successful for MIT men's basketball. Individually, the team's leading



scorers, Noel Hollingsworth '12 and James D. Karraker '12, both reached the 1,000-point milestone. As a team, the Engineers pulled

away with an easy victory against Wheaton on Wednesday and a tough victory against Springfield on Saturday to reach 20 victories total for the season. The team was also featured in Sports Illustrated along with No. 1 Middlebury, in an article focusing on the success of the two teams athletically and academically.

Hollingsworth had a big game against Wheaton, not only scoring his career's thousandth point but also leading the team with 19 points, nine rebounds and four blocks.

MIT dominated over Wheaton during the first half; up 34-7 with just over 15 minutes played, the Engineers cruised. From that point on, MIT did not push ahead further — the team just maintained its large lead and used the opportunity to clock in its bench. The Engineers shot over 70 percent within the perimeter but, uncharacteristically, struggled from beyond the arc, only shooting 19 percent. William Tashman '13 managed a double-double, with 17 points and 11 rebounds. Mitchell H. Kates '13 and William E. Bender '12 also scored in the double digits. MIT ended the night smoothly,

Springfield was a challenge for the Engineers, giving MIT a troublesome second half. MIT played very well during its first half, leading the game 39-29 at the end of it. The Engineers started their second half strong, up 48-34, the greatest lead of the game, at 15:44. Unfortunately, their lead diminished quickly over the next four minutes as Springfield tightened the game. They turned on the pressure on MIT, with a 13-0 run to bring the game to 48-47, MIT. The second part of the half was a struggle for the Engineers to stay in the lead. until 3:48 when Springfield took over the lead, 62-61.

The teams were deadlocked tied 64-64 at 2:20. Karraker saved the game with a clutch three-point jump shot and two perfect free throws, giving MIT the edge, 69-67. With his last free throw, Karraker hit the 1,000 point milestone in his career, in one of the best ways he could have reached it.

MIT's starters worked hard during the game, in an average of 36.8 out of 40 minutes each and scoring all but 3 of the team's points. It was a great game for MIT as a whole, Tashman had seven rebounds and 17 points, Hollingsworth scored 16 points, Kates scored 15 points and had six assists, and Bender managed seven rebounds and 10

The Engineers were week rebounding, 26 versus Springfield's 30, and turned over the ball 16 times versus Springfield's 11; yet MIT managed to win, shooting 13 percent better from the field.

MIT will play at home for its last game tomorrow, February 8 against Babson College in Rockwell Cage at 6:00 p.m.

# MIT prepares for NEWMACs

### Swimming and diving finish the season strong

By Phil Hess DAPER STAFF

The top-10 battle between No. 6 MIT and No. 7 Amherst lived up to its billing on Jan. 28



at the Z-Center on the MIT campus. With a dramatic victory in the final event, the 400 free relay, MIT came out on

top by a score of 153-144. With the victory, MIT improved its dual meet record to 8-0 this

Coming into the final relay the score was knotted at 140-140, freshman Michelle M. Cunningham led off the relay for MIT and put the Engineers on top by a half second with her 53.93 first leg. But Amherst battled back, taking a slight lead as sophomore Christine K. Rogers hit the water for the anchor leg. It came right down to the wire as Rogers just out touched Amherst's Katie Vincett by 0.04 seconds to give MIT

Anna S. Kokensparger '13 was the only MIT swimmer to win multiple individual events, taking three victories for the Engineers. Her first came in the 200 fly, in which she clocked a 2:07.75. She then came back late in the meet to take the 100 fly as

well, turning in a time of 57.43, finishing with a win in the 200 IM, touching the wall in 2:08.88. Kokensparger was also part of the victorious 200 medley relay that started off the meet with a 1:47.42 winning time.

Calley L. Murphy '14 picked up a key win in the 100 breaststroke, turning in her secondbest time of her career with a 1:06.89. Individually, Rogers started her day with a secondplace in the 100 backstroke and then led a key 1-2-3 MIT finish in the 200 backstroke with an effort of 2:06.02. Katelyn M. Rossick '14 and Jane W. He '15 completed the key sweep of the top three spots for the Engineers.

He turned in a strong day for MIT, going under the one-minute mark in the 100 backstroke and picking up a clutch fourthplace finish in the 200 IM with a season best time of 2:14.67.

In the diving events Elise A. Stave '13 took second in both the one and three-meter competitions, with Mia N. Stevens 14 edging out Claire Wagner from Amherst by a point for third in the three-meter competition.

In the last meet of the regular season the No. 6 MIT Women's Swimming and Diving team came up with nine wins at the Wheaton Invitational on Feb. 4. Kokensparger picked up three individual victories to lead the way for the Engineers.

Kokensparger picked up her first two wins early in the day, taking back-to-back events. The first was the 100 backstroke in which she came home first with a time of 1:01.40. She then turned around and turned in a 1:09.26 effort to win the 100 breaststroke. Win No. 3 came later in the meet when she stretched out to a longer distance, capturing the 500 free in a time of 5:15.19.

A double winner for MIT was Rogers who downed the competition in the 200 breaststroke with a clocking of 2:29.62. She then came back to take the 200 IM with a winning time of 2:11.14.

Other winners for the Engineers were Rossick and He and Taylor M. Pearl '15. Rossick took the 100 fly with a time of 1:00.35, while He won the 400 IM in 4:49.13 and Pearl turning in a 2:17.93 in the 200 backstroke. Senior Qing Li was solid all day for MIT, taking second in the 200 backstroke in 2:18.82 and placing in the top-five in the 100 backstroke and 50 free time trial.

Next up for MIT will be the NEWMAC Championships which the Engineers will host beginning on Feb. 17.

